

I agree with the FISTS petition. I have been an Amateur Radio Operator since 1967. I feel that Morse Code has a valuable place in Amateur Radio and should still be encouraged. It can be used with very low transmitter power, very inexpensive equipment, and it is not that hard to learn. The low power used to transmit CW meets an FCC requirement to use the least amount of power required to carry on a conversation with another station. Not all Amateurs can afford an expensive station. Those people studying for an Amateur License have to learn electronic theory, FCC regulations, International regulations, and hopefully, how to setup and operate an Amateur station. Taking away the Morse requirement, could possibly lead to other requirements being reduced in the future. That would lead to the downfall of the greatest hobby, used by a very wide variety of people, to learn and to be of assistance and help in times of need.

Thanks for allowing me to send these comments.